

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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OES FOR BENGELSDORF

ACDA FOR VAN DOREN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, IAEA, JA

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS CONSULTATIONS: GOJ STATEMENT TO
PRESS

1. FEBRUARY 25 JAPAN TIMES (ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY) PRINTED
FOLLOWING STORY UNDER HEADLINE QUOTE SECRET N-PACT EXISTENCE IS
DENIED BY GAIMUSHO UNQUOTE. STORY AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE

THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TUESDAY DENIED THE EXISTENCE OF A SECRET
AGREEMENT ON NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION AMONG ADVANCED NATIONS
INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN AS REPORTED BY THE NEW YORK
TIMES.

ACCORDING TO THE TIMES TUESDAY ISSUE, FRED C. IKLE, DIRECTOR
OF THE U.S. ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGENCY, TESTIFIED
BEFORE THE SENATE ARMS CONTROL SUBCOMMITTEE MONDAY THAT A
SECRET NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION AGREEMENT HAD BEEN CONCLUDED
AMONG THE U.S., JAPAN, THE SOVIET UNION, BRITAIN, WEST GERMANY,
FRANCE AND CANADA.

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IKLE ALSO TOLD THE SUBCOMMITTEE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE

CONCLUSION OF THE AGREEMENT HAD BEEN INITIATED IN LONDON NINE MONTHS BEFORE, ACCORDING TO THE TIMES REPORT.

THE NEGOTIATIONS REACHED AN AGREEMENT ON A DRAFT PACT OF FOUR PRINCIPLES AGAINST NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION LAST OCTOBER AND COMPLETED RATIFICATION PROCEDURES IN JANUARY, ACCORDING TO THE REPORT.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCES SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THERE IS NO SECRET AGREEMENT OF THIS KIND AMONG THE SEVEN ADVANCED NATIONS AND THAT JAPAN HAS NOT TAKEN PART IN ANY MOVES FOR CONCLUSION OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT.

IT IS A FACT, HOWEVER, THAT, SINCE INDIA JOINED THE NUCLEAR CLUB WITH ITS TEST EXPLOSION IN 1974, THE ADVANCED COUNTRIES ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION AMONG NONNUCLEAR COUNTRIES WITH NUCLEAR POTENTIAL.

THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA) IS ALSO WORKING ON SAFEGUARD MEASURES TO PREVENT NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION TO COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT SIGNED THE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT).

THEREFORE, OBSERVERS BELIEVE SOME INFORMAL AGREEMENT DESIGNED TO PREVENT SPREAD OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT MIGHT EXIST, IF NOT SECRET AMONG THE ADVANCED COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE.

2. YOMIURI WAS ONLY JAPANESE LANGUAGE DAILY TO PICK UP STORY IN LOW KEY ARTICLE ON PAGE 4. IT, HOWEVER, MADE NO MENTION OF MOFA DENIAL. YOMIURI CITED NEW YORK TIMES COVERAGE OF IKLE TESTIMONY, AND RAISED QUESTION OF WHETHER SOME SECRET AGREEMENT EXISTS. ARTICLE LISTED SEVEN COUNTRIES NAMED IN TIMES ARTICLE AND STATED THAT QUOTE AGREEMENT UNQUOTE HAD COME ABOUT FROM CONFERENCE WHICH HAD BEGUN ORIGINALLY IN LONDON NINE MONTHS AGO. HODGSON

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